

LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY (LES)
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
July 23, 2024

1. The General Membership meeting of the Louisiana Engineering Society was held on Wednesday, July 23, 2024. Past President, Jim Ellingburg called the meeting to order. This meeting was held via GoToWebinar with 72 members present.
2. The Invocation was given & Pledge was recited.
3. **A motion was made to accept the agenda. Motion seconded; motion passed.**
4. **A motion was made to accept the minutes from the June 2023 LES General Membership Meeting. Motion seconded; motion passed.**
5. Financial Statements
 - a. LES P&L as of 6/30/2024 was reviewed.
 - b. LES Balance Sheet as of 6/30/2024 was reviewed.
 - c. LEF P&L as of 6/30/2024 was reviewed.
 - d. LEF Balance Sheet of 6/30/2024 was reviewed.**A motion was made to accept the financial statements as of 6/30/2024. Motion seconded; motion passed.**
6. A list of deceased members was read (N. Dakota Hill, Floyd Eugene “Gene” Milford, Jr., and George J. Mahl, III), and a moment of silence was observed. (See attached report)
7. LES Standing Committee Reports
 - a. **Constitution & Bylaws Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – LES has updated the Articles and is currently reviewing LES Bylaws to update them with more current information. Once the Bylaws are revised, then the handbook will be revised to match both the Articles and Bylaws. This is a lengthy process but will be complete by the end of the 24/25 fiscal year.
 - b. **CPD Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – LES hosted a CPD Day event which included a Life Safety Code seminar with 65 attendees, an ADA seminar with 37 attendees, and an ethics luncheon with 24 attendees. The LES OnDemand library also offers 33 courses online available to members and nonmembers throughout the year. The 2024 JESC was held on February 16 & 17, 2024 and offered 13 CPD credits. The 2025 JESC will be held on February 5 & 6, 2025.
 - c. **Engineering Education Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – As previously discussed, the Constitution & Bylaws Committee is reviewing which committees should remain standing committees and which should become ad hoc committees. It is the opinion of Engineering Education Committee Chair, Jeff Pike, that this committee can be changed from a standing committee to an ad hoc committee.
 - d. **Ethics & Professional Conduct** – (see attached report) – There were no ethics and professional conduct issues investigated by the committee this year.
 - e. **Honors and Awards Committee** – Report was given (see attached report)
 - F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award: N. Dakota Hill (Monroe)

A. B. Paterson Medal for an Engineer in Management: Gregory P. Sepeda, PE (Baton Rouge)
Leo M. Odom Award for Services to the Profession: John J. Plaisance, PE (Bayou)
Andrew M. Lockett Award: Michael D'Angelo (Bayou)
Charles M. Kerr Public Relations Award: Miles B. Williams, PE (Baton Rouge)
James M. Todd Technological Accomplishment Medal: Brett McMann (Baton Rouge)
Waldemar S. Nelson Presidents Award: Ann Forte Trappey, PE (Baton Rouge)
Lifetime Achievement Award: Chris Knotts, PE (Baton Rouge)

A new award was established the year in honor of N. Dakota Hill, PE, called the N. Dakota Hill Outstanding Chapter President Award. This award was given to Kalyn Partin, PE (Lake Charles).

- f. **Inter-Society Relations** – Report was given – There were no topics warranting a meeting with the Inter-Society Relations Committee this year.
- g. **LE Magazine Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – Four magazines were published this year. This year, the magazine went mostly digital, with hard copies only being mailed out to life members and PE's in the retired status with LAPELS. There were no changes to ad rates this year.
- h. **Legislative Committee** – Report was given – LES had a very busy legislative session this year with the new governor administration. The Legislative Committee is already meeting to plan and prepare for the 2024-2025 legislative session.
- i. **Long Range Planning Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – The Long Range Planning Committee did not meet in 2023-2024.
- j. **MATHCOUNTS Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – The Chapter Competitions took place February 1-28. The top students from the Chapter Competitions moved to the state competition, which was on March 15 in Pineville, LA. The top individuals attended the National Competition from May 9 – May 12 in Washington D.C. There were 22 schools that participated in the state competition, represented by 99 students. A request to assist chapters with school recruitment was issued to all members.
- k. **Membership Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – As of June 2024, LES membership is at 2,085 members. This is an increase from June 2023 in which LES had 2,002 members. The membership committee has implemented a Course of the Month program that is exclusive to members that attend chapter meetings in which they receive a discount code for a CPD course in the LES OnDemand library that month. The committee is also working to update LES marketing materials and implementing new ways to retain members. Some of these materials include a membership testimonial and updating our website and connecting members to the LES State Office.
- l. **Public Relations Committee** – Report was given – Most work with the Public Relations Committee was done at the Chapter level with chapter events and outreach. The biggest event that was done this year was the Gubernatorial Luncheon that was put on in Baton Rouge, LA in which attendees had the opportunity to listen to and ask questions to the gubernatorial candidates before the election.

- m. **Scholarship Committee** – Report was given (see attached report) – The LES Scholarship Committee provided one \$750 scholarship this year. This scholarship was awarded to Toby Latino who is a sophomore in electrical engineering at LA Tech from the Baton Rouge Chapter. A request to members to increase their voluntary dues was issued so more scholarships can be given.
 - n. **Young Engineers Committee** – No report given
- 8. Practice Division Reports
 - a. **PEC** – No report was given
 - b. **PEE** – (see attached report) The following names have been recommended to submit to the governor’s office for the upcoming LAPELS PEE Vacancy in 2025: Gianna M. Cothren, Ph.D., PE, Hisham E. Hegab, Ph.D., PE, Michael Theodos, PE, and William David Constant, PE.
 - c. **PEG** – No report was given
 - d. **PEI** – No report was given
 - e. **PEPP** – Report was given (see attached report) – This year, PEPP was involved in helping the Legislative Committee and ACEC in fighting legislation filed by the Architects. This bill was amended specifying limits to the exemption. PEPP also submitted three names to the Governor’s office to fill the LAPELS PEPP Vacancy. Susan Richard has been selected by the new administration to serve.
- 9. Old Business
 - No old business items to discuss.
- 10. New Business
 - No new business items to discuss.
- 11. Adjournment
 - A motion was made to adjourn. Motion seconded; motion passed.** The 2024 LES General Membership meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.